

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : Unknown
Applicant : Herbert STOTKIEWITZ et al
Based on : PCT/DE 03/03387
Title : Overpressure Valve For A Packaging Container

Docket No. : R.304065
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 18, 2005

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b),
AND EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE OF THE CITED PRIOR ART**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached prior art statement be placed of record in the application file and considered by the examiner.

This citation of prior art is made under 37 CFR 1.97(b), since it is being filed within three months of the filing date.

The relevance of the prior art cited on the attached form 1449 is as follows:

Appl. No. Unknown
IDS filed April 18, 2005
Within 3 months of the filing date

US 5,727,881

This patent teaches an over-pressure valve for a packaging container which includes a base plate with a central valve hole that coincides with a hole in a wall of the container and a valve diaphragm. The valve diaphragm covers the valve hole and the adjoining zones and includes two parallel peripheral zones which form a channel along an adhesive-free middle zone. To keep the opening pressure of the over-pressure valve slight and to simplify the manufacture of the tool for the valve hole, the valve hole is formed of two intersecting circular holes which extend longitudinally of the adhesive-free middle zone of the valve diaphragm.

US 4,420,015

This patent teaches a safety valve for a hermetically sealed container, which includes a carrier plate having a lateral edge flange for fastening the carrier plate to the container and presents a shallow recess having a base provided with a central opening. A flexible diaphragm inserted in the recess covers the central opening. A viscous sealing agent interposed between the base of the recess and the diaphragm is also included. A clamping member is disposed in the recess and provided with pressing jaws, positioned to clamp an edge region of the diaphragm against the base of the recess.

Appl. No. Unknown
IDS filed April 18, 2005
Within 3 months of the filing date

EP 0 870 697 A1

This patent teaches a sealed package (20) which has a compartment (12) to hold contents under a hermetic seal. A valve (22) is present in a wall of the package for gas to transfer between the compartment and the atmosphere. The valve includes auxiliary means such as slits (56) arranged to transfer a limited volume of gas into the compartment.

GB 1 583 503

This patent teaches pressure relief valves and a packaging container incorporating them. Between the container wall (1) and the covering (6) which covers a passage opening (2), a valve element (3) is fixed by an edge-side layer of adhesive or a weld (4). The valve element (3) consists of a porous, disc-like material impregnated with a liquid. The valve element (3) advantageously serves as a carrier for the liquid. The valve opens by the liquid layer in the pores of the porous material tearing open in the event of over-pressure. In this over-pressure valve which already responds at very slight over-pressures, the risk of gas exchange into the interior of the packaging container occurring in the interval between the diminishing of the over-pressure is reduced.

DE 198 43 430 A1

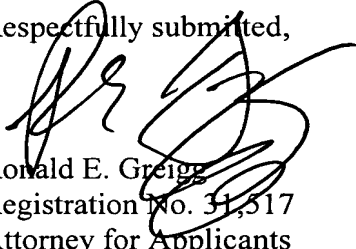
This patent teaches a bag for powder with a plastic wall that is impermeable to dust. A pressure compensation valve (106) allows gas to escape from within the bag. A non-woven fiber material (107) is in front of the escape valve (106) for the gas to pass through before it

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reaches the valve (106), preferably using Tyvek (RTM) or Tyvek 1073D (RTM). The sealed bag (100) for holding powder allows the contents to release a gas when the bag is closed and sealed.

Examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

of

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Herbert Stotkiewicz et al.

Art Unit

Examiner Name _____

Attorney Docket Number

R.304065

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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